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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
Atty. Docket: END0887USCIPIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kevin Doll : Paper No:
Serial No. 10/687,503 : Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: October 5, 2003 : Examiner: G.R. Weeks
For: SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING A SINGLE LOCKOUT
MECHANISM FOR PREVENTION OF FIRING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the
United States Patent And Trademarks Office.

Kimberly M. Moser 3-30-06
Kimberly M. Moser Date

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants herewith submit certain patent references and other information, which the Patent & Trademark Office may wish to consider in examining the above-identified application. The references are provided below, and are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

U.S. PATENTS	ISSUE/ PUBLICATION DATE	INVENTOR
5,031,814	07-16-191	Tompkins et al.
5,071,052	12-10-1991	Rodak et al.
5,137,198	08-11-1992	Nobis et al.
5,397,046	03-14-1995	Savage et al.
5,413,267	05-09-1995	Solyntjes et al.
5,413,268	05-09-1995	Green et al.
5,445,304	08-29-1995	Plyley et al.
5,465,895	11-14-1995	Knodel et al.

U.S. PATENTS	ISSUE/ PUBLICATION DATE	INVENTOR
5,484,095	01-16-1996	Green et al.
5,487,500	01-30-1996	Knodel et al.
5,535,937	07-16-1996	Boiarski et al.
5,584,425	12-17-1996	Savage et al.
5,680,983	10-28-1997	Plyley et al.
5,692,668	12-02-1997	Schulze et al.
5,709,334	01-20-1998	Sorrentino et al.
5,735,445	04-07-1998	Vidal et al.
5,762,255	06-09-1998	Chrisman, et al.
5,918,791	07-06-1998	Sorrentino et al.
5,826,776	10-27-1998	Schulze et al.
5,871,135	01-16-1999	Williamson et al.
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6,032,849	03-07-2000	Mastri et al.
6,079,606	06-27-2000	Milliman et al.
6,109,500	08-29-2000	Alli et al.
6,202,914	03-20-2001	Geiste et al.
6,667,825	12-23-2003	Lu et al.
6,669,073	12-30-2003	Milliman et al.
2001/0029384 A1	10-11-2001	Nicholas et al.
2001/0030219 A1	10-18-2001	Green et al.
2004/0232195 A1	11-25-2004	Shelton et al.

Copies of the listed references are provided. No representation is made or intended that a prior art search has been made or that no better art than the listed is available. It is respectfully requested that the information be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

by: /Dean L. Garner/
Dean L. Garner
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Johnson & Johnson
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New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
513-337-8559
Dated: 30 March 2006

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Substitute for Form PTO 1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application No.	10/687,503
Filing Date	October 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Kevin Doll
Art Unit	3721
Examiner Name	G.R. Weeks

Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket No.	END887USCIP.0503879
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner initials	Cite No.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,031,814	07-16-1991	Tompkins et al.	
		US- 5,071,052	12-10-1991	Rodak et al.	
		US- 5,137,198	08-11-1992	Nobis et al.	
		US- 5,397,046	03-14-1995	Savage et al.	
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		US- 5,692,668	12-02-1997	Schulze et al.	
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		US- 6,202,914	03-20-2001	Geiste et al.	
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		US- 2001/0029384A1	10-11-2001	Nicholas et al.	
		US- 2001/0030219 A1	10-18-2001	Green et al.	
		US- 2004/0232195 A1	11-25-2004	Shelton et al.	

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DATE CONSIDERED _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for Form PTO 1449			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application No.	10/687,503
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		Examiner Name	G.R. Weeks
Sheet	2	of	2
		Attorney Docket No.	END887USCIP.0503879

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
OTHER REFERENCES - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (In CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published				T ⁶

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